

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

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FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8134
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
USINT HAVANA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 4850

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ID, CU, PEPR, PORG
SUBJECT: CUBAN DELEGATION VISITS JAKARTA

1. SUMMARY. A TWO-MAN CUBAN DELEGATION LED BY JACINTO VAZQUEZ VISITED JAKARTA APRIL 7-12 TO DISCUSS PREPARATIONS FOR THE 1979 NAC AND "REACTIVATION" OF BILATERAL RELATIONS. WHILE IT IS NOT YET CLEAR, IT SEEMS THAT BILATERAL RELATIONS DOMINATED THE TALKS. END SUMMARY.

2. A CUBAN DELEGATION COMPRISING FORMER CHARGE D'AFFAIRES TO JAKARTA, JACINTO VAZQUEZ, AND EDUARDO IGLESIAS GUINTANA VISITED JAKARTA APRIL 7-12 TO DISCUSS PREPARATIONS FOR THE 1979 SUMMIT MEETING OF THE NAC TO BE HELD IN HAVANA. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, VAZQUEZ ON HIS ARRIVAL IN JAKARTA ALSO STATED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT "WOULD NOT RULE OUT POSSIBILITIES FOR NORMALIZATION OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH INDONESIA."

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3. IN A STATEMENT BEFORE THE PRESS, FOREIGN MINISTER MOCHTAR KUSUMAATMADJA ACKNOWLEDGED THAT CUBA WAS SEEKING TO RESTORE RELATIONS AT THE AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL, AND SAID THAT INDONESIA TOO IS READY TO RESTORE RELATIONS. THE QUESTION OF LEVEL, HOWEVER, WOULD BE DETERMINED LATER, HE SAID. THE FOREIGN DEPARTMENT SUBSEQUENTLY EXPLAINED

THAT MOCHTAR'S STATEMENT ON RESTORATION OF RELATIONS "IMPLIED REACTIVATION OF INDONESIA-CUBA RELATIONS, SINCE BILATERAL TIES HAD NEVER BEEN CUT OFF." DURING RECENT MEETING WITH THE AMBASSADOR, FOREIGN MINISTER MOCHTAR SAID THAT INDONESIA WILL "DEFINITELY" RE-ESTABLISH RELATIONS WITH CUBA (NO EXACT DATE GIVEN), BUT AT THE CHARGE RATHER THAN AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL.

4. AFTER LEARNING OF THE PLANNED CUBAN VISIT, EMBOFF CALLED ON SUTANTIO, HEAD OF NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS IN THE AMERICAN DIRECTORATE ON APRIL 6. ACCORDING TO SUTANTIO AND A SUBORDINATE WIDODO, THE PRIMARY FOCUS OF THE TALKS WAS EXPECTED TO BE ON THE REOPENING OF OFFICES IN EACH CAPITAL, HAVANA AND JAKARTA. BOTH OFFICIALS ALSO EXPRESSED CURIOSITY AS TO WHY THE CUBANS WERE SO ANXIOUS TO RE-ESTABLISH RELATIONS AND SPECULATED THAT THE CUBANS WERE PERHAPS MOTIVATED BY THE NOTION THAT IT WOULD BE AN EMBARRASSMENT, AS THE HOST, TO OPEN THE NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE IN 1979 WITHOUT INDONESIA -- A FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE NON-BLOC GROUP. THEY BOTH SEEMED DOUBTFUL, HOWEVER, THAT NAC CONSIDERATIONS WERE THE ONLY THING MOTIVATING THE CUBANS AND HAD WONDERED ALOUD IF CUBA'S "BIG BROTHER" HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH ITS LATEST INITIATIVE.

5. FOLLOWING THE VISIT, EMBOFF AGAIN CALLED AT THE
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FOREIGN DEPARTMENT, THIS TIME ON THE HEAD OF CENTRAL AND CARIBBEAN AFFAIRS YUNIZAR YACUB, WHO, ALTHOUGH NOT PARTICULARLY FORTHCOMING, INDICATED VISIT HAD PROCEEDED ROUGHLY AS PLANNED. YACUB SAID THERE WERE NO LONGER ANY SUBSTANTIVE BILATERAL ISSUES, AND THAT THE REOPENING OF OFFICES WAS CONTINGENT ON BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS.

6. WE SUSPECT THAT THE RESULTS OF THE CUBAN VISIT ARE MORE DETAILED THAN YACUB WAS ABLE OR WILLING TO SHARE WITH US AND WILL, THEREFORE, CONTACT HIGHER LEVEL OFFICIALS IN AN ATTEMPT TO RECEIVE A MORE INFORMED STATUS REPORT OF THE VISIT.
MASTERS

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